(c) what is the latest number of closed textile mills including those of Gujarat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) According to the latest estimate of the Planning Commission in March, 1985, the number of unemployed persons including educated unemployed was 9.2 million as of March, 1985.

(b) and (c) According to information received from the Ministry of Textiles, as on 31-1-89, 140 textile mills affecting 1.68 lakh workers were closed/locked out including the mills in Gujarat.

Loss to NCCF due to violation of instruction and procedures regarding sale and purchase

2630. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Statutory Auditors in their Audit Report of 1987-88 of NCCF have pointed out specific irregularities of violation of Head Office instructions and procedures with regard to sales and purchase resulting in substantial losses to NCCF, if so, what are the details of irregularities in each case indicating financial loss to NCCF; and

(b) whether NCCF has enquired into these irregularities and fixed responsibilities of the guilty officers; if so, the outcome thereof and action taken thereon and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The statutory auditors have pointed out certain cases of specific irregularities in the purchases and sales in the Audit report for the year 1987-88 the details of which are as under:—

Details	Likely financial loss (Rs. in lakhs)
(*i*) Business in Coal and appointment of coal Handling Agent by Chandigarh Branch	13.00
(*ii*) Procurement and buffer stocking of gram for supply to APO by Jaipur Branch .	1.65
(*iii*) Import of black Matpe from Thailand by Head Office .	5.20

In addition, the Audit report to the irregularities in the procurement of tur dal by Indore Branch, supply of Moong dal and moong whole by Delhi Br. and supply of moong and gram by Srinagar Branch. The amount of loss would be known only on the disposal of stocks and completion of supplies.

(b) The irregularities are under investigation by the NCCF with a view to fixing responsibility for the losses.

Conference of Chief Ministers of States

2631. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of Chief Ministers of the States was held to give a final shape to the two years long exercise of structuring a new democratic district administrative set up;

(b) if so, when was the conference held; and

(c) the number of Chief Ministers who attended the conference and what were the decisions taken and subjects discussed in this regard?